

REMARKS

Claims 8-16 are pending in the case. The Examiner rejected claims 8-10, 14 and 15 under 35 USC 102. The Examiner also rejected claims 8-16 as being indefinite under 35 USC 112. The Examiner also objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a). Claims 8, 9, 10, 14 and 15 have been amended. The foregoing amendment and the following remarks are considered by applicant to overcome each of the Examiner's outstanding rejections. An early Notice of Allowance is therefore requested.

In the office action, the Examiner objected to the drawings. In particular, the Examiner contended that the drawings did not show the "back face light emitting diode" nor the "photo-electromotive force." With regard to the "back face light emitting diode," the applicant respectfully disagrees. In Fig. 18, the back face light emitting diodes are shown by reference number 91. See page 43, line 24 – page 44, line 1 of the specification. With regard to the "photo electromotive force," the specification in the paragraph that begins on page 19, line 20 specifically states that a voltage is generated in the light emitting diode 4. This voltage is the photo electromotive force and is not capable of being depicted graphically in the drawings. As such, the Examiner's objections to the drawings are traversed.

The Examiner also rejected claims 8-16 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter. In particular, the Examiner contended that that the claimed limitations regarding the photo electromotive force is not clear and requested an explanation. As stated above, the voltage generated in the diodes are the photo electromotive force. Later on in that same paragraph, it explains how the voltage generated in the light emitting diode ("the photo electromotive force") changes according to a change of light intensity incident on the light emitting diode. That change will change the voltage of the load resistance element ("signal based on photo electromotive force"). In addition, claims 8, 9, 10, 14 and 15 have been amended to specify that the photo electromotive force is generated in the LEDs. As such, the Examiner's rejection has been traversed.

The Examiner also rejected claims 8-10, 14 and 15 as being anticipated by Yajima. The applicants respectfully disagree. Yajima disclose a light emitting diode 2 that emits light. It also describes a light detecting element (13, 13a and 13b) for receiving the optical signal. In the presently claimed invention, the same LEDs are used for alternately emitting and receiving light

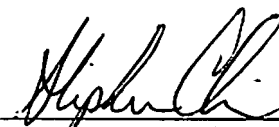
and are controlled by the scanning control means. The receiving LEDs will generate the photoelectromotive force that creates the signal in the light receiving means. As such, since Yajima describes separate elements (the light detecting elements 13, 13a and 13b) that will receive the light to ultimately generate the image, Yajima cannot anticipate the currently claimed invention that specifies that the same LEDs are used for both functions. Independent claims 8, 9, 10, 14 and 15 all describe the photoelectromotive force as being generated in the LEDs and not separate light detecting elements. Therefore, the Examiner's rejection of these claims based on Yajima is traversed.

Claims 11-13 and 16 all depend from one of the independent claims 8, 9, 10, 14 and 15 and should be allowable for the same reasons that claims 8, 9, 10, 14 and 15 are allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance and favorable reconsideration and prompt notice to that effect are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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